

# BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF MEETING TUESDAY, January 22nd, 2019

Approved

A meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was held in the Burlington Police Department Community Room on **Tuesday**, January 22nd, 2019. Chair Michele Asch called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

The following Commissioners were present: Chair Michele Asch, Vice Chair Shireen Hart, Commissioner Randall Harp, Commissioner Jim Dunn, and Commissioner Peter Bahrenburg. Also present: Chief del Pozo, Corporal Kratochvil, Data Analyst Nancy Stetson and Police Commission Clerk Laura Cheney.

### **Additions or Modifications to Agenda**

None

#### **Public Forum**

Ken Swearingen to speak regarding a commendation of an officer.

#### Chief's Report

- The Chief reported that six new recruits are in pre-basic prior to heading to the VPA. It is a diverse group, with a variety of backgrounds and experience. We are also looking at several lateral transfers. We aspire to hit 105, and have remained in the mid to high 90's.
- The Chief referenced media coverage regarding the Vermont Police Academy use of force training. They have hired a private investigator and we'll be monitoring that closely.
- The department's breakroom is under renovation, mostly funded by our foundation the Queen City Police Foundation and is expected to be complete within a few weeks.
- The Chief relayed that disciplinary action has been administered for the officers found consuming beer confiscated from minors.

#### **Review of Incoming Correspondence**

- Ken Swearingen reported on several interactions with Officer Ross in which the Officer responded exemplary.
- Several other commendation letters were reviewed.

## **BPD Social Media Policy**

- Michael Fife spoke on his concern regarding the Chief's use of social media, and requested a social media policy from the department.
- Commissioner Dunn inquired whether the city's social media policy will address this (currently in draft form).
- Chair Asch suggested the existing BPD media policy be amended to address social media.
- Chief del Pozo stated that a social media policy will not address Michael Fife's concerns, as they are rooted in style
  and sensibility.
- Vice Chair Hart suggested circulating the current BPD media policy, the draft city social media policy, and other examples of social media policies for police departments.
- Chair Asch will follow up with Michael Fife after the commission has reviewed and discussed the topic further.

### **Powers & Function of the Police Commission**

 The Public Safety Committee is later this month, and Michele will be attending regarding the "Role of the Police Commission". • Commissioner Dunn will speak with the City Attorney to determine what resolutions exist regarding the police commission.

#### **Youth Commissioner Opportunity**

- Chair Asch suggested bringing on two youth commissioners, vetted by CEDO, who would not have voting rights.
- Commissioner Harp noted some concerns about the vetting process.
- Vice Chair Hart suggested bringing these two on to gain experience before the opportunity is lost.
- Chair Asch will share the applications with the commission, and invite them to the next meeting in hopes of voting them on.
- Commissioner Harp will reach out to Phet from CEDO about the process.

#### **Commissioners' Updates/Comments:**

- Chair Asch relayed complaints from community members who utilized the 'park mobile' app and still received a ticket.
- Chief del Pozo noted the parking regulations in the City are governed by the Department of Public Works, though we do enforcement. Citizens should contest tickets with the City Attorney, who is able to void tickets.
- Chair Asch reminded everyone that the Awards Luncheon is on March 18th, and encouraged commissioners to buy tickets.
- Vice Chair Hart asked that the organizational chart of the department be shared with the commission.
- Chair Asch requested that 2019 CommStat and SubStat dates be circulated. Clerk Cheney will distribute.

#### **Chief's Add'l Comments**

 A draft of Directive 43, Reporting of Corruption and other Misconduct, distributed to be voted on at the next meeting.

# <u>Consent Agenda – Minutes of Previous Commission Meetings:</u> November 27th<sup>h</sup> Minutes; January Executive Session Minutes

 Commissioner Dunn motioned to accept, Commissioner Bahrenburg seconded, all Commissioners voted in favor, minutes approved.

### **Next Meeting's Agenda Items and Date:**

- Next meeting rescheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup>
- Review and adopt Directive 43
- BPD Social Media Policy
- Youth Serving on Police Commission
- Power and Function of the Police Commission

#### **Adjournment:**

- Vice Chair Hart motioned to move to executive session at 7:34 pm. Seconded by Commissioner Dunn.
- Following executive session, Commissioner Harp motioned to conclude, seconded by Chair Asch, adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,	
and	1/22/2019
Laura Cheney	1/22/2019
Police Commission Clerk	